

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method for notifying users of subject preferences across a plurality of messaging sessions, said method comprising the steps of:

filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions
10 according to subject preferences for a user; and

notifying said user of a selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions correlating to said subject preferences for said user, such that said user is enabled to monitor conversations comprising said subject preferences across said plurality of current messaging sessions.

2. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

filtering said plurality of current messaging sessions and notifying said user from a messaging server communicatively connected to a plurality of client messaging systems, wherein a particular client messaging system from among said plurality of
25 client messaging systems is accessible to said user.

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filtering said plurality of current messaging sessions and notifying said user from a particular client messaging system communicatively connected to a plurality of client messaging systems.

filtering a new channel added as a new messaging session to said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

5. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 1, said step of filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising the step of:

filtering a new topic added to a channel from among said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

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6. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 1, said step of filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising the step of:

5 filtering a new keyword added as a new message entry to a particular messaging session from among said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

7. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 1, said step of filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising the step of:

10 filtering said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user added to said plurality of current messaging sessions.

8. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 1, said step of filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising the step of:

filtering said plurality of messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a plurality of users participating in at least one from among said plurality of messaging sessions.

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9. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 1, said step of notifying said user of a selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions, further comprising the step of:

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notifying said user of said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions utilizing an output indicated in notification preferences for said user.

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10. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions; and

notifying said user of said activity level.

11. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 10, said step of detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising the step of:

detecting said activity level for at least one from among a channel, a topic, or a user within said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions.

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12. The method for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 10, said step of detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising the step of:

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detecting said activity level comprising at least one from among a number of bytes within a particular time period, a number of message entries within a particular time period, and a time period since a message entry was last entered.

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13. A system for notifying users of subject preferences across a plurality of messaging sessions, said system comprising:

a messaging server communicatively connected to a network;

said messaging server further comprising:

means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions at said messaging server according to subject preferences for a user; and

means for notifying said user from said messaging server of a selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions correlating to said subject preferences for said user, such that said user is enabled to monitor conversations comprising said subject preferences across said plurality of current messaging sessions.

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14. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 13, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

5 means for filtering a new channel added as a new messaging session to said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

15. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 13, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

means for filtering a new topic added to a channel from among said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

16. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 13, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

means for filtering a new keyword added as a new message entry to a particular messaging session from among said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

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17. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 13, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

5 means for filtering said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user added to said plurality of current messaging sessions.

18. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 13, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

means for filtering said plurality of messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a plurality of users participating in at least one from among said plurality of messaging sessions.

19. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 13, said means for notifying said user of a selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions, further comprising:

means for notifying said user of said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions utilizing an output indicated in notification preferences for said user.

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20. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 13, said system further comprising:

means for detecting an activity level associated with said
5 selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions; and

means for notifying said user of said activity level.

10 21. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 20, said means for detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

means for detecting said activity level for at least one from among a channel, a topic, or a user within said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions.

20 22. The system for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 20, said means for detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

25 means for detecting said activity level comprising at least one from among a number of bytes within a particular time period, a number of message entries within a particular time period, and a time period since a message entry was last entered.

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23. A program for notifying users of subject preferences across a plurality of messaging sessions, residing on a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means, said program comprising:

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means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user; and

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means for enabling a notification to said user of a selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions correlating to said subject preferences for said user, such that said user is enabled to monitor conversations comprising said subject preferences across said plurality of current messaging sessions.

24. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 23, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

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means for filtering a new channel added as a new messaging session to said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

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25. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 23, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

5 means for filtering a new topic added to a channel from among said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

26. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 23, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

means for filtering a new keyword added as a new message entry to a particular messaging session from among said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user.

27. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 23, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

means for filtering said plurality of current messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a user added to said plurality of current messaging sessions.

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28. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 23, said means for filtering a plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

5 means for filtering said plurality of messaging sessions according to subject preferences for a plurality of users participating in at least one from among said plurality of messaging sessions.

10 29. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 23, said means for notifying said user of a selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions, further comprising:

means for notifying said user of said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions utilizing an output indicated in notification preferences for said user.

20 30. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 23, said program further comprising:

means for detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions; and

25 means for notifying said user of said activity level.

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31. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 30, said means for detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

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means for detecting said activity level for at least one from among a channel, a topic, or a user within said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions.

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32. The program for notifying users of subject preferences according to claim 30, said means for detecting an activity level associated with said selection from among said plurality of current messaging sessions further comprising:

means for detecting said activity level comprising at least one from among a number of bytes within a particular time period, a number of message entries within a particular time period, and a time period since a message entry was last entered.

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33. A user interface method for specifying messaging session subject preferences, said method comprising:

graphically displaying a plurality of selectable items representing a plurality of current messaging sessions matching messaging session preferences for a user within a display area; and

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responsive to a selection from among said plurality of selectable items, initiating a graphical display of a matching messaging session within said display area.

34. A user interface for a display of specified messaging session subject preferences, said interface comprising:

a plurality of graphically displayed selectable items representing a plurality of current messaging sessions matching
5 messaging session preferences for a user within a display area;
and

means for initiating a graphical display of a matching messaging session within said display area, in response to a user selection from among said plurality of selectable items.

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